FRENCH LYRIC DICTION – MUS 3942y/a/b

University of Western Ontario
Don Wright Faculty of Music
Course Instructor: Prof. Patricia Green

E-mail: mezzo@uwo.ca
Office: TC 419         Office Hours: By appointment

CLASS SCHEDULE
Wednesday 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm, TC 100

PREREQUISITE
MUS 2942y (Italian/German lyric diction)

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Intensive study of French lyric diction and mélodie performance practice; including IPA assignments, tests, transcription and pronunciation practice, study of French composers of song, and performances of songs. The second semester involves application of lyric diction study in performances of works in French and English by Canadian composers and by contemporary French composers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
For the student to learn correct pronunciation of French in singing, to gain further facility in the use of IPA for the same purpose, and to build an understanding of the syntax and word stress of the French language and French poetry. Singers are to gain knowledge of composers of mélodie and learn the correct interpretive style for singing mélodie, employing it in performance.

REQUIRED MATERIALS
Songbooks of Berlioz, Gounod, Saint-Saëns, Bizet, Massenet, Duparc, Chabrier, Chaminade, Chausson, Fauré, Debussy, Satie, Caplet, Roussel, Ravel, Viardot, Chaminade, Poulenc, Hahn, Milhaud, Boulanger, Messiaen, Jolivet, Dutilleux, Papineau-Couture, Garant, Hétu, Pépin, Smallman, Laurin
The Coursepack is required for every class in the first 7 weeks of first semester.
The Bernac is required for every class from Week 8 – 13.

COURSE PIANIST
Pianists are assigned to this course to accompany you. You must provide your chosen List A and B songs to them by Oct. 5th. It is your responsibility to book a rehearsal to take place in the two weeks preceding your class performances. If fail to do so, the pianist is not obliged to accompany you, and you must provide your own pianist. Note that the pianist for the course is not assigned to coach. It is your responsibility to know the text and the score when you arrive at your rehearsal. For the December EXAM performance, you must provide a copy of your song to the pianist by OCTOBER 26th. You are invited to ask your studio pianist to play for you.

COMMUNICATION
Important class announcements and information may be sent to you by email. It is your responsibility to check your e-mail regularly and respond as necessary.

OVERVIEW OF SCHEDULE
Weeks 1 - 6: Introduction, Intensive work on Diction mastery
Week 7: Written Diction exam
Weeks 8 - 12: Mélodie Performances
Exam period Final Exam Mélodie Performance
ASSIGNMENTS
From week 1-6 there will be weekly IPA transcription and vocabulary assignments, and a listening assignment. The IPA and translation of each song you will perform will be handed in 2 weeks preceding your performances. Texts will be spoken preceding the performance, and understanding of the word for word poetry is expected. A research song profile is required on the day of your performance.

EVALUATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPA, Listening and Song Profile Assignments</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Mélodie Performance</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>includes recitation of song text</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Mélodie Performance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>includes recitation of song text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam Mélodie Performance</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>includes recitation of song text</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance, Repertoire, Participation</td>
<td>8%</td>
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</tbody>
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MIDTERM EXAM
This written exam will include IPA transcription, questions on vocabulary, and diction rules.

ELECTRONICS
The in-class use of electronic devices is expressly prohibited in class. Students found using devices will be asked to leave the class.

IMPORTANT UWO POLICIES

Academic Consideration for Student Absence & Missing Work (≥10%): Students are responsible for making up any missed classes or assignments as soon as possible. The University recognizes that a student’s ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Associate Dean, Undergraduate (TC210), together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. Students are directed to read the Senate policy on accommodation for medical illness at the following website for further details regarding requirements and procedures for the supporting documentation:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and their Academic Counselling office in a timely manner.

Academic Consideration for Missing Work (<10%): In cases where students miss work that is worth less than 10% of the total course grade (ie. two or fewer assignments) due to medical illness or compassionate grounds, if documentation is voluntarily submitted to the Associate Dean’s office and the Associate Dean grants an accommodation, then the missed assignment(s) will be discounted in the calculation of the final grade for the course. If documentation is not voluntarily submitted then the missed assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero. Students who have been denied accommodation by an instructor may appeal this decision to the Associate Dean’s office but will be required to present appropriate documentation.

Academic Offences: Submission of work with which you have received help from someone else (other than the course instructor or TA) is an example of plagiarism, which is considered a major academic offence. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, as found at:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf
**Mental Health & Wellness:** Students that are in emotional/mental distress should refer to the Health and Wellness at Western page [https://www.uwo.ca/health/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help or to go to the Wellness Education Centre located in UCC room 76. **Students in crisis in need of immediate care are directed to go directly to Student Health Services in UC11 or to click on the green “I Need Help Now” button on the Health and Wellness page above.**

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:** Students work with Accessible Education Western (AEW, formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [https://www.uwo.ca/uniysec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/uniysec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

**Religious Accommodation:** Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar. [http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo](http://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo)

**Contingency Plan:** Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 restrictions may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

**Gender-Based and Sexual Violence:** Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence, either recently or in the past, you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/recipient_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/recipient_support/get-help.html). To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca or call 519 661-3568.

**Evaluation Policy Exemption:** This course has received an exemption from the requirement in the Senate Policy on Evaluation of Undergraduate Academic Performance that stipulates “At least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade.”

**Examinations & Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

**Electronic Devices in Exams:** Electronic devices of any type will not be permitted during the Midterm Test and/or Final Exam in this course (unless required for accessibility reasons based on an approved accommodation request from Accessible Education).

**Plagiarism Detection Software Usage:** All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com [https://www.turnitin.com/](https://www.turnitin.com/).